



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

TFW

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/719,127	11/20/2003	Allen Jacobs	37182-20	2234

7590 03/28/2005

Warren P. Kujawa  
#4  
434 Larkin St.  
Monterey, CA 93940

EXAMINER

LA, ANH V

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2636

DATE MAILED: 03/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

RECEIVED  
MAY - 6 2005  
OJPE/JCWS

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/719,127	<b>Applicant(s)</b> JACOBS	
	<b>Examiner</b> Anh V La	<b>Art Unit</b> 2636	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____.  |

### DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant is required to provide the drawings because the drawings including Figure 1 and 2 are missing from this application.
2. The claims are objected to because there are many typographical errors. In claim 1, line 6, the phrase "the improvement" should be changed to - -the unit-- . In claims 2-3, line 1, the phrase "The invention of claim" should be changed to - -The unit of claim-- . In claims 5-6, line 1, the phrase "The invention of claim" should be changed to - -The method of claim-- . In claim 4, line 6, the phrase "the improvement" should be changed to - -the method-- .
3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.
4. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Deese (US 5,663,719) in view of Shilo (US 6,356,057).

Regarding claims 1 and 4, Deese discloses in a traffic control equipment malfunction management unit/method having at least two input terminals for receiving D.C. voltage signals from a power supply used to provide power to associated traffic control equipment, and processing circuitry 78, 74, 578, 574 for monitoring the level of the DC voltage present on each input terminal and for generating a fault signal when

Art Unit: 2636

either D.C. voltage level falls below a predetermined threshold value, the unit comprising threshold circuitry for selectably providing at least two different threshold values for at least two terminals (abstract, figures 4, 9, column 2, lines 1-69). Deese does not disclose at least two power supplies. Shilo teaches the use of two power supplies (col. 12, lines 1-3). It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to include at least two power supplies to the unit of Deese as taught by Shilo for the purpose of providing power supply to the unit.

Regarding claims 2 and 5, Deese discloses a manually actuatable switch (80, 76, 580,576).

Regarding claims 3 and 6, Deese discloses a display (figures 4, 9).

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.


Kaye and Daneshfar teach traffic lights and back-up traffic controllers.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anh V La whose telephone number is (571) 272-2970. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 9:30am to 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffery Hofsass can be reached on (571) 272-2981. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2636

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
**ANH V. LA**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

Anh V La  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2636

AI  
March 15, 2005

<b>Notice of References Cited</b>	Application/Control No. 10/719,127	Applicant(s)/Patent Under Reexamination JACOBS	
	Examiner Anh V La	Art Unit 2636	Page 1 of 1

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Name	Classification
	A	US-5,663,719	09-1997	Deese et al.	340/912
	B	US-6,356,057	03-2002	Shilo et al.	320/127
	C	US-5,208,584	05-1993	Kaye et al.	340/907
	D	US-5,248,967	09-1993	Daneshfar, Marek	340/931
	E	US-			
	F	US-			
	G	US-			
	H	US-			
	I	US-			
	J	US-			
	K	US-			
	L	US-			
	M	US-			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*		Document Number Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Date MM-YYYY	Country	Name	Classification
	N					
	O					
	P					
	Q					
	R					
	S					
	T					

**NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS**

*		Include as applicable: Author, Title Date, Publisher, Edition or Volume, Pertinent Pages)
	U	
	V	
	W	
	X	

\*A copy of this reference is not being furnished with this Office action. (See MPEP § 707.05(a).)  
Dates in MM-YYYY format are publication dates. Classifications may be US or foreign.